

1      Laurence A. Weiss (Bar No. 164638)  
2            Laurence.Weiss@hellerehrman.com  
2      HELLER EHRMAN LLP  
3      275 Middlefield Road  
3      Menlo Park, CA 94025-3506  
4      Telephone: 650.324.7000  
4      Facsimile: 650.324.0638

5 David B. Weinberg (D.C. Bar # 186247)  
6 (Pending *pro hac vice*)  
dweinberg@wileyrein.com  
7 Eric Andreas (D.C. Bar # 462777)  
eandreas@wileyrein.com  
8 David E. Markert (D.C. Bar #502486)  
dmarkert@wileyrein.com  
9 WILEY REIN LLP  
1776 K Street NW  
10 Washington, DC 20006  
Telephone: 202.719.7000  
Facsimile: 202.719.7049

12 Attorneys for Intervenor-Defendant  
Makhteshim Agan of North America, Inc.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

16 UNITED FARM WORKERS, et al., )  
17 Plaintiffs, )  
18 v. )  
19 )  
20 UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL )  
21 PROTECTION AGENCY, )  
22 Defendant. )  
23 )  
Case No. C 08-03595 SBA  
[PROPOSED] ANSWER OF  
INTERVENOR-DEFENDANT  
MAKHTESHIM AGAN OF  
NORTH AMERICA, INC. TO  
FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

Intervenor Makhteshim Agan of North America, Inc. (“MANA”) answers Plaintiffs’ First Amended Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief (“Complaint”) as follows:

1. Paragraph 1 consists of Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims in this lawsuit,  
the relief they seek, and conclusions of law, to which no response is required.

1  
2        2. MANA admits that diazinon is an organophosphate. MANA also admits that  
3 humans and wildlife can be exposed to diazinon during and following application, but denies that  
4 contamination or negative health effects occur when its diazinon products are used in accordance  
5 with label directions. MANA denies the remainder of the allegations in Paragraph 2.

6        3. Paragraph 3 consists of Plaintiffs' characterization of the United States  
7 Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") decision to reregister diazinon, which speaks for  
8 itself, and conclusions of law; thus no response is required.

9        4. Paragraph 4 consists of Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims in this lawsuit,  
10 the relief they seek, and conclusions of law, to which no response is required.

11        5. MANA denies the first sentence in Paragraph 5 to the extent it is contradicted by  
12 Plaintiffs' statement in Paragraph 33 that EPA has initiated consultation on the effects of diazinon  
13 "on listed salmon and steelhead populations, the California red-legged frog, and the Barton  
14 Springs salamander." MANA does admit that EPA has not initiated and completed consultation  
15 on all listed or endangered species that might be impacted by its reregistration decision for  
16 diazinon. The remainder of Paragraph 5 consists of Plaintiffs' characterization of their claims in  
17 this lawsuit, the relief they seek, and conclusions of law, to which no response is required.

18        6. MANA denies the allegations in the first two sentences of Paragraph 6. MANA  
19 admits the remaining allegations of Paragraph 6.

20        7. MANA is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the  
21 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 7 and therefore denies them.

22        8. MANA is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the  
23 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 8 and therefore denies them.

24        9. MANA is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the  
25 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 9 and therefore denies them.

26        10. MANA is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the  
27 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 10 and therefore denies them.

28        11. MANA is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the

1 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 11 and therefore denies them.

2 12. MANA denies the allegations in Paragraph 12.

3 13. MANA denies the allegations in Paragraph 13.

4 14. MANA admits that EPA is a federal agency. As to the remaining allegations in  
5 Paragraph 14, the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (“FIFRA”) and  
6 Endangered Species Act (“ESA”) speak for themselves; thus no response is required.

7 15. Paragraph 15 merely cites and summarizes FIFRA, which speaks for itself; thus no  
8 response is required.

9 16. Paragraph 16 merely cites and summarizes FIFRA, which speaks for itself; thus no  
10 response is required.

11 17. Paragraph 17 merely cites and summarizes FIFRA and the Federal Food, Drug,  
12 and Cosmetic Act (“FFDCA”), which speak for themselves; thus no response is required.

13 18. Paragraph 18 merely cites and summarizes FIFRA, which speaks for itself; thus no  
14 response is required.

15 19. Paragraph 19 merely cites and summarizes FIFRA, which speaks for itself; thus no  
16 response is required.

17 20. MANA admits the first two sentences of Paragraph 20. MANA is without  
18 knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations in  
19 Paragraph 20 and therefore denies them.

20 21. The first sentence of Paragraph 21 merely summarizes FIFRA and the FFDCA,  
21 which speak for themselves; thus no response is required. MANA denies the second sentence of  
22 Paragraph 21.

23 22. MANA admits the allegations in Paragraph 22.

24 23. Paragraph 23 consists of a conclusion of law to which no response is required.

25 24. MANA denies the allegation in the first sentence of Paragraph 24. The second  
26 sentence of Paragraph 24 purports to characterize reports which speak for themselves; thus no  
27 response is required. MANA denies the allegations in the third sentence of Paragraph 24.

28 25. Paragraph 25 merely cites and summarizes the ESA, which speaks for itself; thus

1 no response is required.

2 26. Paragraph 26 merely cites and summarizes the ESA and its implementing  
3 regulations, which speak for themselves; thus no response is required.

4 27. Paragraph 27 merely cites and summarizes the ESA and its implementing  
5 regulations, which speak for themselves; thus no response is required.

6 28. Paragraph 28 merely cites and summarizes the ESA, which speaks for itself; thus  
7 no response is required.

8 29. Paragraph 29 merely cites and summarizes the ESA, which speaks for itself; thus  
9 no response is required.

10 30. MANA admits that diazinon is an organophosphate insecticide and that some  
11 organophosphates were developed during World War II, but denies that diazinon was developed  
12 during World War II. MANA denies the remaining allegations of Paragraph 30.

13 31. With regard to the first and second sentences of Paragraph 31, MANA admits that  
14 the domestic annual average use between 1987 and 1997 was approximately 13 million pounds,  
15 but denies that the domestic annual average use of diazinon has continued at the same pace  
16 following the cancellation of diazinon's residential uses in 2000. MANA admits the third  
17 sentence of Paragraph 31.

18 32. The first, second, and third sentences of Paragraph 32 purport to cite and  
19 summarize the July 2002 Interim Reregistration Eligibility Decision ("IRED") for diazinon,  
20 which speaks for itself; thus no response is required. MANA is without knowledge or  
21 information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation in the fourth sentence of  
22 Paragraph 32 and therefore denies it.

23 33. MANA admits the allegations in Paragraph 33.

24 34. With regard to the first sentence of Paragraph 34, MANA admits that a draft  
25 biological opinion was released on July 31, 2008 concerning the effects of diazinon and two other  
26 pesticides on salmon and steelhead. The remainder of Paragraph 34 merely cites and summarizes  
27 the draft biological opinion, which speaks for itself; thus no response is required.

28 35. MANA admits that extreme exposures to organophosphates, including diazinon,

1 have been associated with some of the effects listed in the second and third sentences of  
2 Paragraph 35, but deny that such exposures occur when its products are used in accordance with  
3 label directions. The fourth sentence of Paragraph 35 purports to characterize scientific studies  
4 which speak for themselves and are the best evidence of their contents.

5       36. With regard to the first, second, and third sentences of Paragraph 36, MANA  
6 admits that extreme exposures to organophosphates, including diazinon, have been associated  
7 with some of the effects listed, but deny that such effects occur when its products are used in  
8 accordance with label directions. Also, regarding the allegations in the third sentence of  
9 Paragraph 36, MANA admits that there are studies that purport to show that diazinon has  
10 sublethal effects on certain fish at low concentrations, but denies that those studies are reliable.  
11 The last sentence of Paragraph 36 merely cites and summarizes the July 31, 2008 draft biological  
12 opinion, which speaks for itself; thus no response is required.

13       37. With regard to the first sentence of Paragraph 37, MANA admits that diazinon can  
14 become airborne. MANA is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to  
15 the truth of the allegations in the second sentence of Paragraph 37 and therefore denies them. The  
16 last two sentences purport to characterize air monitoring studies which speak for themselves and  
17 are the best evidence of their contents.

18       38. MANA denies the first sentence of Paragraph 38. The second and third sentences  
19 merely cite and summarize the diazinon IRED and July 31, 2008 draft biological opinion, which  
20 speak for themselves; thus no response is required. Regarding the last sentence in Paragraph 38,  
21 MANA admits that waterbodies have been listed as impaired due to the detection of diazinon, but  
22 denies that the listings were appropriate.

23       39. Paragraph 39 characterizes the diazinon IRED and 2004 revision to the IRED,  
24 which speak for themselves; thus no response is required.

25       40. Paragraph 40 characterizes the diazinon IRED, which speaks for itself; thus no  
26 response is required.

27       41. Paragraph 41 characterizes the diazinon IRED, which speaks for itself; thus no  
28 response is required.

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2       42. Paragraph 42 characterizes the diazinon IRED, which speaks for itself; thus no  
3 response is required.

4       43. Paragraph 43 characterizes the diazinon IRED, which speaks for itself; thus no  
5 response is required.

6       44. MANA denies the second sentence in Paragraph 44. The remainder of Paragraph  
7 44 characterizes the diazinon IRED, which speaks for itself; thus no response is required.

8       45. Paragraph 45 characterizes the diazinon IRED and 2004 revision to the IRED,  
9 which speak for themselves; thus no response is required.

10      46. MANA denies the allegations in Paragraph 46.

11      47. MANA denies the allegations in Paragraph 47.

12      48. MANA admits that the diazinon IRED was called "interim." The remainder of  
13 Paragraph 48 characterizes the Food Quality Protection Act and the EPA Memorandum  
14 Finalizing IREDs for Organophosphate Pesticides, July 31, 2006, which speak for themselves;  
15 thus no response is required.

16      49. Paragraph 49 characterizes and quotes portions of FIFRA, which speaks for itself;  
17 thus no response is required.

18      50. MANA denies the allegations in Paragraph 50.

19      51. MANA denies the allegations in Paragraph 51.

20      52. The first sentence of Paragraph 52 characterizes and quotes portions of FIFRA,  
21 which speaks for itself; thus no response is required. The second and third sentences contain  
22 conclusions of law to which no response is required.

23      53. The first and second sentences of Paragraph 53 purport to characterize the  
24 diazinon IRED, which speaks for itself; thus no response is required. MANA denies the third  
25 sentence in Paragraph 53.

26      54. Paragraph 54 characterizes and quotes portions of the ESA, which speaks for  
27 itself; thus no response is required.

28      55. The first sentence of Paragraph 55 characterizes and quotes portions of the ESA

1 and its implementing regulations, which speak for themselves; thus no response is required. The  
2 second sentence consists of a conclusion of law to which no response is required.

3        56. The first sentence of Paragraph 56 purports to characterize the diazinon IRED,  
4 which speaks for itself; thus no response is required. The second, third, and fourth sentences of  
5 Paragraph 56 consists of conclusions of law to which no response is required. MANA denies the  
6 allegations in the last sentence of Paragraph 56.

## PRAYER FOR RELIEF

8 MANA denies that Plaintiffs are entitled to the relief requested.

## **GENERAL DENIAL**

10 Except as expressly admitted or otherwise stated herein, MANA denies each and every  
11 allegation in Plaintiffs' Complaint.

## AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 13 A. Plaintiffs have failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

14 B. Plaintiffs lack standing to bring this case.

15 C. This Court lacks jurisdiction over the subject matter of this case.

16 D. Plaintiffs' claims are moot.

17 MANA reserves the right to add affirmative defenses as may be revealed during the  
18 course of the litigation of this case.

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1 WHEREFORE, for these reasons, MANA requests that the Court deny Plaintiffs'  
2 Complaint with prejudice, that MANA be awarded its costs in this action, and that the Court grant  
3 such other and further relief as may be appropriate.

4  
5 Respectfully submitted,  
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9 HELLER EHRMAN LLP  
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12 By: /s/  
13 Laurence A. Weiss  
14 Laurence.Weiss@hellerehrman.com  
15 HELLER EHRMAN LLP  
16 275 Middlefield Road  
17 Menlo Park, CA 94025-3506  
18 Telephone: 650.324.7000  
19 Facsimile: 650.324.0638  
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David B. Weinberg (D.C. Bar # 186247)  
(Pending *pro hac vice*)  
dweinberg@wileyrein.com  
Eric Andreas (D.C. Bar # 462777)  
eandreas@wileyrein.com  
David E. Markert (D.C. Bar #502486)  
dmarkert@wileyrein.com  
WILEY REIN LLP  
1776 K Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006  
Telephone: 202.719.7000  
Facsimile: 202.719.7049

DATED: August 20, 2008

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17 Attorneys for Intervenor-Defendant  
18 Makhteshim Agan of North America, Inc.  
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